



DOCKET NO. 17293D (HL)

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Massaro et al)
Serial No.: 09/919,195)
Conf. No. 4830)
Filed: July 31, 2001)
For: METHODS AND)
COMPOSITIONS FOR THE)
TREATMENT AND PREVENTION)
OF LUNG DISEASE)
Examiner: Seaman, Margaret)

Group Art Unit: 1625

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box RCE; Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Signature: Bonnie Ferguson
Date of Signature: 1/31/2003

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Reply is being filed in reply to the Office Action mailed October 31, 2002. Applicants have the following comments.

AMENDMENTS

Kindly amend claim 13 to read as follows:

Sub E

13. (Amended) A method for the treatment or prevention of alveolar destruction in a mammal comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of an RAR antagonist having specific RAR modulating activity to said mammal.

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's comments in the Office Action dated October 31, 2002, and respond as follows.

Applicants note that the claims are now free of the prior art, as the Examiner has not repeated